

## INDIAN EDUCATION REPORT

2011-12

## Indian Student Achievement Support

- Early childhood book distribution to all reservations and urban areas through partnership with Hopa Mountain, non-profit organization in Bozeman
- Support for Jobs for Montana Graduates to schools on reservations, partnership with the Department of Labor
- Collaboration with the University of Montana to support Montana Writing Project in 3 locations(Havre, Billings and Missoula)
- Support for art therapy training for 20 teachers from reservation communities in collaboration with Montana Arts Council
- Student leadership project with Ecology International Project based in Missoula to support students from reservation communities and urban areas to participate in Yellowstone science summer course
- Prepared and distributed American Indian Student Achievement Data Report (<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/IndianEd/Data/12INEDStudentDataRpt.pdf>)

## Indian Education for All Support

## ❖ Curriculum/Materials Development

- Development of Indian Education for All/ Montana Common Core Standards alignment through companion guide for language arts; math planned for summer 2013; convened a group of science teachers and community members to focus on integration of Indian Education for All in draft science standards; two Indian Education specialists are participating in social studies standards development
- Lesson Plan pilot project – 64 teachers and their observers from across the state chose an OPI Indian Education for All unit to teach; they provided feedback on lessons that will be incorporated in the revisions of the units
- Convened a leadership group of approximately 20 artists and art teachers from across the state to develop guidance on integrating Indian Education for All in art instruction
- Published *Birthright*, a collection of Montana Native poets for high school instruction
- Developed science/social studies unit, Ft Peck PlaceNames
- Revised *History of Indian Education* document
- Development of Plains Ledger Art curriculum unit in collaboration with the MT Historical Society

- Distributed 10 new resources to school district libraries  
([http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/IndianEd/Resources/11\\_12Resources\\_School\\_Libraries.pdf](http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/IndianEd/Resources/11_12Resources_School_Libraries.pdf));  
reprinted and distributed hundreds of curriculum resources at state conferences.

#### ❖ Support for Indian Education for All Implementation

- Grants averaging \$13,000 to 10 school districts for current school year (Arlee, Columbia Falls, Conrad, Kalispell, Lewistown, Luther, Polson, Seeley Lake, Stevensville, Sunburst). 3 districts (Frenchtown, Seeley Lake, and White Sulphur Springs) received grants averaging \$10,000 for 11-12 school year; RFP was limited to districts that had not received a previous Indian Education for All grant from OPI.
- Support for 5 museum/school partnerships averaging \$10,000 (Helena, Stevensville, Butte, Missoula and Columbus) that have designed innovative projects involving museum and student interaction.
- Grants of \$15,000 to 5 regional service providers (RESA regions in Glendive, Billings, Bozeman, Centerville and Missoula) to design and conduct professional development for local districts in implementing Indian Education for All.

#### ❖ Professional Development

- Planned and conducted statewide Indian Education for All conference in Billings in Feb. 2012; 7<sup>th</sup> annual conference will be held this February in Helena
- Delivered 35 professional development presentations at conferences or districts on-site
- Supported 2 statewide and 1 regional conferences in Billings and Bozeman

February 2013

## Resources Sent to School Libraries 2011-12

### All Schools

*Challenge to Survive History of the Salish Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation, Unit IV, 1870-1910 Charlo and Michel Period*

◇ Provides accurate tribal history of the Salish tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation. Units I-III and *The Lower Flathead River Flathead Indian Reservation* have already been provided to libraries.

*Montana Tribal Histories: Educators Resource Guide and Companion DVD*, developed by Julie Cajune, 2011

◇ This document incorporates information about Montana tribes into social studies and language arts instruction. It chronologically follows federal policy periods through their impact on tribes and is designed to accompany and supplement the tribal histories that have been developed by the tribal colleges and provided to K-12 districts in the state.

### Elementary Schools

*A Kid's Guide to Native American History*, by Yvonne Wakim Dennis and Arlene Hirschfelder, 2009 (grades K-5)

◇ This book features more than 50 tribally specific, hands-on activities, games, and crafts that explore the diversity of Native American cultures and teach children about people, experiences, and events that have shaped our country's history.

*Montana Skies Crow Astronomy & Montana Skies Blackfeet Astronomy*, 2011 (grades 3-6)

◇ These incorporate ethno-astronomy and contain a DVD and accompanying teacher's guide to assist in integrating Indian Education for All in science, social studies and art.

### Elementary and Middle/Junior High Schools

*As Long as the Rivers Flow by Larry Loyie - Model Teaching Unit – Language Arts*

◇ This language arts unit was developed for grades 4-8 to go with the book that tells the story of Larry Loyie's final summer with his family before he and his sibling were required to leave for St. Bernard Indian Residential School located in Alberta, Canada.

### Middle/Junior High School

*The Birchbark House by Louise Erdrich – Model Teaching Unit – Language Arts, Text-based Inquiry Unit*

◇ This literature unit is designed to teach the essential understandings about Montana tribes with an emphasis on the Anishinabe (Chippewa or Ojibwa).

*Bull Trout's Gift, Field Journal and Explore the River* DVD by Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, 2011

◇ This is a three-part, integrated multimedia curriculum framed by the cultural values of the Salish and Pend d'Oreille people. The parts focus on the bull trout, its habitat needs, and its historic relationship with the Salish, Kootenai, and Pend d'Oreille people, as well as the tribes' restoration and management efforts. This unit supports the integration of Indian Education for All in Montana content standards in science, social studies, and language arts.

## High Schools

*Before There Were Parks: Yellowstone and Glacier Through Native Eyes*, DVD produced by Montana PBS/KUSM-TV, 2009

◇ This DVD, narrated by N. Scott Momaday, is filmed across four seasons in both Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. It visits with two programs reconnecting Native children to their heritage and listens to fourteen Native leaders as they introduce the view that America's national parks are a significant connection to this land's profound indigenous past.

*Facing the Storm: Story of the American Bison*, DVD produced by Big Sky Pictures/High Plains Films/ITVS/Montana PBS and directed by Doug Hawes-Davis, 2011

This film is a comprehensive documentary on the iconic American bison and its history in the American wilderness. Using archival materials and interviews with scientist, ranchers, animal rights activists, and state governors, the filmmakers tell the story of the eradication of approximately 30 million buffalo from the Great Plains areas in less than 50 years.

*Last Stand at Little Big Horn: Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse Battle Custer*, DVD written by James Welch and Paul Stekler, produced and directed by Paul Stekler, 2004

Using journals, oral accounts, and Indian ledger drawings as well as archival and feature films, Native American writer James Welch and white filmmaker Paul Stekler combine talents to examine this watershed moment from multiple viewpoints; those of the Lakota Sioux, Cheyenne, and Crow who lived on the Great Plains for generations and those of white settlers and businessmen who pushed west across the continent. For an accompanying resource, see the Model Teaching Unit for secondary level language arts of James Welch's *Killing Custer: The Battle of the Little Bighorn and the Fate of the Plains Indians*.